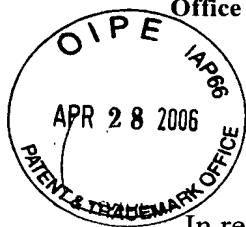


DOCKET NO.: MSFT-1744/303845.1

PATENT

Application No.: 10/601,480

Office Action Dated: February 1, 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**Michael L. Brundage and Andrew E.  
Kimball**

Confirmation No.: 1383

Application No.: 10/601,480

Group Art Unit: 2168

Filing Date: June 23, 2003

Examiner: **Dangelino N. Gortayo**

For: **Query Optimizer System and Method**

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO: EV765642056US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: April 28, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.111**

In response to the Official Action dated **February 1, 2006**, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and/or remarks as indicated below:

- ☒ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.
- ☒ **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.
- ☐ **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.
- ☒ **Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.